From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Trump Agrees to Provide Tech Companies With "Timely" Huawei Licensing Decisions
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 5:13:15 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- The White House said President Donald Trump agreed during a meeting with chief executives from Qualcomm Inc., Intel Corp., Google and four other companies Monday to provide business leaders with "timely licensing decisions" regarding sales to Huawei Technologies Co. The office also said the chief executives also expressed "strong support of the president's policies," such as the United States' restrictions on sales to Huawei and American telecom equipment purchases for national security reasons. (The Wall Street Journal)

- About a dozen fake accounts, pages and groups on Facebook Inc.'s platform and Instagram are posing as official hubs for Libra, the social media company's proposed cryptocurrency, with some offering to sell the digital coin to users at a discount. Facebook has since removed a number of the fake accounts - many of which included the Facebook logo, photos of Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg and official marketing images for Libra. (The Washington Post)

- Sales of customers' location data by cellphone companies and mobile app developers could soon be illegal in New York City under a new bill being introduced today by Democratic Councilman Justin Brannan. If the bill passes, the city would be the first to ban the sale of geolocation data to third parties such as digital marketers, roadside emergency assistance services, retail advertisers and others. (The New York Times)

Chart Review

The People With Power at Amazon Web Services
The Information

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

07/23/2019

Senate Judiciary Committee's hearing on the enforcement of antitrust laws	2:30 pm

07/24/2019

Politico event on Unlocking the AI Data Puzzle in the Federal Government	8:00 am

House Oversight Committee's hearing on Russian interference in the 2016 elections with Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III	8:30 am
Brookings Institution's "The future of ICT in the digital economy" event	10:00 am
House Appropriations Committee's oversight and budget hearing for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy	10:15 am
Senate Commerce Committee's markup, including several broadband and 5G bills	10:30 am
Senate Commerce Committee's nominations hearing, including consideration of Michael Kratsios for the role of U.S. Chief Technology Officer	10:30 am
House Intelligence Committee's hearing with former Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III	12:00 pm
FTC's Fighting Consumer Fraud and Identity Theft workshop in Iowa	1:00 pm
ITIF's discussion on benefits of facial recognition technology use for law enforcement	2:00 pm
New America's "Overcoming Obstacles to Connection" event on AI, personalized learning and other automations	4:30 pm

07/25/2019

Internet Governance Forum USA 2019	
Brookings Institution's "Autonomous cars: Science, technology, and policy" event	8:45 am
The Capitol Forum's DOD Procurement Conference	9:00 am
FiscalNote's Data Privacy and Antitrust Luncheon	11:30 am

View full calendar

Understanding Gen Z: The Definitive Guide to the Next Generation

Based on nearly 1,000 survey interviews with 18-21 year-olds, Morning Consult's 'Understanding Gen Z' report digs into the values, habits, aspirations, politics, and concerns that are shaping Gen Z adults and the ways they differ from the generations that came before them.

Download the full report →

General

As DOJ nears deal approval, T-Mobile bets Sprint merger is worth giving Dish a new lease on life
Alex Sherman, CNBC

There's a term in poker called "pot committed." It means arriving at a point in time when it no longer makes sense to fold a hand regardless of the circumstances.

Amazon Worker Protests Have Spread to Chicago As Temperatures Rise
Caroline O'Donovan, BuzzFeed News

As heat climbed to historic heights last week, Amazon workers at a fulfillment center on the South Side of Chicago became the latest to protest working conditions at the online retail behemoth. Early Tuesday morning, 30 workers at Chicago's DCH1 fulfillment centers came to management with three demands - higher pay during peak delivery periods like Prime Day, health insurance for all workers, and air conditioning - and requested a meeting with the warehouse site leader.

Amazon plans to build a bike-friendly headquarters complete with employee showers in Arlington, Virginia - take a look
Rebecca Aydin, Business Insider

Amazon in the spring filed its proposed development plans for its second headquarters, known as HQ2, in Arlington, Virginia, and the company projects that construction will begin early next year.

With $1 Billion From Microsoft, an A.I. Lab Wants to Mimic the Brain
Cade Metz, The New York Times

As the waitress approached the table, Sam Altman held up his phone. That made it easier to see the dollar amount typed into an investment contract he had spent the last 30 days negotiating with Microsoft.

What Is Libra, Anyway? Washington Weighs Cryptocurrency's Regulatory Possibilities
Claire Williams, Morning Consult

With Facebook Inc.'s proposed digital currency Libra, lawmakers and regulators are facing their first big test in creating a regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies. The solution isn't straightforward, and even David Marcus, Facebook's executive heading Libra and the digital wallet Calibra project, wasn't able to give a straight answer to lawmakers' concerns over how to define the project.

U.S. Index Futures Rise as Debt Deal Lifts Mood: Markets Wrap
Laura Curtis, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures rose alongside stocks in Europe and Asia Tuesday amid a busy week of corporate earnings and encouraging signs for a U.S. debt-ceiling deal and trade negotiations. Oil stabilized and the dollar climbed.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

The Amazon dilemma: how a tech powerhouse that fulfills our every consumer need still lets us down
Jason Del Rey, Vox

Despite increasing criticism, Amazon refuses to acknowledge many of the unintended consequences its rise to dominance has spawned.

Apple Patents Gesture, Expression Tracking for Mixed Reality Headset
Janko Roettgers, Variety

Apple's upcoming mixed reality headset could include a number of sensors to track the eyes, gestures and even facial expressions of its users. The company applied for a patent to track these kinds of inputs, and combine them with information gathered from outward-facing sensors for mixed reality experiences.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Huawei lays off hundreds of workers at US research arm
Yuan Yang, Financial Times

China's Huawei has laid off more than 600 workers from its US-based research arm Futurewei, as the result of being put on a Washington trade blacklist. Huawei wrote in an emailed statement that the lay-offs, effective as of Monday, were "due to the curtailment of business operations" caused by Washington putting Huawei on the US "Entity List".

UK to toughen telecoms security controls to shrink 5G risks
Natasha Lomas, TechCrunch

Amid ongoing concerns about security risks posed by the involvement of Chinese tech giant Huawei in 5G supply, the U.K. government has published a review of the telecoms supply chain, which concludes that policy and regulation in enforcing network security needs to be significantly strengthened to address concerns.

Leaked documents reveal Huawei's secret operations to build North Korea's wireless network
Ellen Nakashima et al., The Washington Post

Huawei Technologies Co., the Chinese tech giant embroiled in President Trump's trade war with China and blacklisted as a national security threat, secretly helped the North Korean government build and maintain the country's commercial wireless network, according to internal documents obtained by The Washington Post and people familiar with the arrangement.

FCC's Pai Proposes to Expand 'Written' Hearings
John Eggerton, Broadcasting & Cable

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai has circulated two items he said will "update and streamline" FCC processes, including expanding hearings where there is nothing to hear, as it were. That proposal would expand the FCC's use of "written hearings," where there is no live testimony.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Louisiana policemen fired over Facebook post suggesting Ocasio-Cortez be shot
Dan Whitcomb, Reuters

A Louisiana policeman who suggested on Facebook that high-profile U.S.

Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez needed to be shot was fired on Monday, along with a second officer who "liked" his post. Officers Charles Rispoli, a 14-year veteran of the Gretna Police Department who made the social media comment on Thursday, and Angelo Varisco, who "liked" it, were terminated following a swift internal investigation, Chief Arthur Lawson told a news conference.

Facebook design flaw let thousands of kids join chats with unauthorized users
Russell Brandom, The Verge

Facebook's Messenger Kids app is built around a simple premise: children shouldn't be able to talk to users who haven't been approved by their parents. But a design flaw allowed users to sidestep that protection through the group chat system, allowing children to enter group chats with unapproved strangers.

Apple in Advanced Talks to Buy Intel's Smartphone-Modem Chip Business
Dana Cimilluca, The Wall Street Journal

Apple Inc. is in advanced talks to buy Intel Corp.'s smartphone-modem chip business, according to people familiar with the matter, a move that would jump-start the iPhone maker's push to take control of developing the critical components powering its devices.

Consumer group asks FTC to investigate Amazon's paid endorsements program
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

Leading consumer group Public Citizen on Tuesday asked federal regulators to probe whether Amazon associates misled and deceived customers by failing to disclose they receive money to recommend certain products.

Google Settles Job Seekers' Age-Bias Claims for $11 Million
Robert Burnson, Bloomberg

Google agreed to pay $11 million to end a lawsuit accusing the internet giant of discriminating against older job applicants, a deal that amounts to an average payout of more than $35,000 for 227 people who joined the class action.

Could Feds Force Companies to Support Your Right to Repair?

Lauren Goode, Wired

Last Tuesday in Washington DC, while Facebook executive David Marcus was getting grilled by the Senate Banking Committee about the company's foray into cryptocurrency, the Federal Trade Commission was hosting another tech-related panel a mile and a half away.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Facial recognition may be banned from public housing thanks to proposed law
Alfred Ng, CNET

Facial recognition doesn't belong in the home, lawmakers will propose in landmark legislation in Congress this week. As landlords across the country continue to install smart home technology and tenants worry about unchecked surveillance, there's been growing concern about facial recognition arriving at people's doorsteps.

Leaked Emails Show Frantic Response to Border Patrol Data Breach
Joseph Cox, Motherboard

When a hacker publicly dumped information stolen from one of its license plate scanning contractors called Perceptics, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) needed to analyze the data. Fast.

The Best Algorithms Struggle to Recognize Black Faces Equally
Tom Simonite, Wired

French company Idemia's algorithms scan faces by the million. The company's facial recognition software serves police in the US, Australia, and France.

Equifax's $700 million data breach settlement spurs criticism, calls for new rules
Pete Schroeder, Reuters

Credit-reporting company Equifax Inc will pay up to $700 million to settle claims it broke the law during a massive 2017 data breach and to repay harmed consumers, in a landmark settlement that was nonetheless criticized by

consumer advocates and some lawmakers who called for stricter regulation.

NSA Forms Cybersecurity Directorate Under More Assertive U.S. Effort
Dustin Volz, The Wall Street Journal

The National Security Agency will create a cybersecurity directorate later this year as part of a wider effort to align the agency's offensive and defensive operations more closely, U.S. officials said. Anne Neuberger has been tapped to lead the new directorate, slated to become operational Oct. 1.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

More Drones, Air-Taxis and Rockets Mean Congress Must Modernize Air Travel
Henry Bonilla, Morning Consult

Whatever your feelings about President Donald Trump's trade dispute with China, it is clear that the United States must be vigilant about remaining the world's preeminent place to do business. To ensure America's success on the global stage, our leaders in Washington must make strategic investments in our infrastructure.

Congress can - and should - modernize today
Otto Heck, The Hill

If Congress wants to be responsive to the digitally-connected generations, it must reform itself. Members and their staffs should immediately begin utilizing existing technologies to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of offices, allowing for time to be better-spent by the member and their staff on the issues that matter most.

As tech giants face Congressional investigation, states must step up regulatory oversight too
Tiffany Olson Kleemann, TechCrunch

Congress has begun investigations into the power wielded by tech giants Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google - from their effect on the news media, to their impact on retail markets, to their handling of data. Unusual for these divided times, the concerns are bipartisan, with members of both parties

suggesting that new legislation and regulation may be needed.

Research Reports

Understanding the Rural Broadband Problem
C Spire Rural Broadband Consortium

While broadband availability in the United States continues to expand, people living in rural areas remain among the least likely to have broadband access. Mississippi, for example, is ranked 46 in broadband access and 47 in terms of urban population.

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